

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network telephone system is provided with a distributed network, a network call processor, with the call processor connected to the network. A telephone line network interface is connected to a telephone line and is connected to the network for receiving packets from the network and sending packets to the network including packets with telephone voice data. A plurality of network telephones are part of the network telephone system with each network telephone connected to the network. Each network telephone has a display for displaying information and each network telephone is capable of engaging in a concurrent telephonic communication. Each network telephone has an I/O device in electrical communication with the network for receiving and sending packets to other devices connected to the network, an input device for producing audio signals from an input local to the device and a packet controller in electrical communication with the I/O device and the input device. The packet controller generates packets from the audio signals received by the input device, forwards the generated packets to the I/O device for transmission to the network and combines packets received by the I/O device to produce an audio signal with the combined packets and the audio signals from the local input device. Each network telephone displays information on the display corresponding to an identity of a source of

packets combined whereby the identity may be selected for dropping a source form a concurrent telephonic communication.

TELEPHONE